



1-353rd Infantry Battalion

Headquarters and Headquarters Company

Commander



CPT Thomas J. Piernicky received his commission from Officer Candidate School at FT Benning, Georgia in 2005. He then attended Armor Officer Basic Course at FT Knox, Kentucky and graduated in May 2006.

CPT Piernicky's first assignment was as a Tank Platoon Leader in Fox Troop, 2nd Squadron, 3d ACR, FT Hood, Texas. In November 2007 CPT Piernicky deployed for 15 months to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, conducting combat operations in both Diyala and Ninawa provinces. Upon returning from the deployment, CPT Piernicky was assigned as the Squadron Maintenance Officer until he moved to Fort Bliss, Texas in July 2009.

While at Fort Bliss, CPT Piernicky served as an Observer/Controller with the 3rd Battalion, 362 Armor Regiment where he trained National Guard and Reserve members of all branches of the

Armed Forces. Subsequently, he attended the Maneuver Captains Career Course at FT Benning. Upon graduation, he returned to FT Hood to serve as an Assistant S3 with the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, until he took command of Comanche Troop, 6-9 Cavalry Squadron. In August of 2013 CPT Piernicky PCSed to Fort Polk and joined the 162D Infantry Brigade.

Captain Piernicky's awards and decorations include the Combat Action Badge, the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf cluster, the National Defense Service Award, Iraq Campaign Medal with two bronze stars, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Overseas Service Ribbon and The Valorous Unit Award.